

REMARKS

Claims 2-5 and 7-8 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6 are cancelled.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 3-5, 7 and 8.

Accordingly, claims 3, 4, and 7 are rewritten in independent form to include all the elements of the base claim and intervening claims.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 was objected to because of informalities in lines 12 and 17. Claim 1 is cancelled, and amended claims 3 and 4 contain the corrections noted in the Office Action. In light of the amendments, it is believed that the objection is overcome.

Rejection Based Upon Non-statutory Double Patenting

Claims 1, 2, and 6 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as unpatentable over copending Application No. 09933140 in view of U.S. Patent 6,449,225 to Waclawsky. Present claims 1 and 6 are cancelled and claim 2 is amended to depend from allowable claim 3. In light of these amendments, it is submitted that claim 2 is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,483,600 to Schuster et al. in view of U.S. Patent U.S. 6,449,225 to Waclawsky and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,310,897 to Watanabe. As stated

above, claims 1 and 6 are cancelled and claim 2 is amended to depend from allowable claim

3. Thus, claim 2 is allowable and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.


Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant further requests acknowledgment of the Information Disclosure Statement
filed August 28, 2001.

Summary

In light of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that pending claims 2-5
and 7-8 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections and a notice of allowability are
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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